

REMARKS

Claims 2-8 and 10-12 remain in this application, and claims 1 and 9 are canceled. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

A substitute specification is supplied as required. A marked-up version of the substitute specification, showing additions to the original specification by underlining and deletions from the original specification by strike-through, is attached as Appendix III. The substitute specification includes no new matter.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on U.S. Patent 2,728,331 to Louzecky et al. is moot as a result of the cancellation of claims 1 and 9.

Claims 2, 3, 5, and 10-12 are rewritten above in the manner referred to by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action and are allowable. The remaining, dependent claims in this application are allowable as well.

Should the Examiner have any questions after considering this Reply, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Date: August 17, 2004

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

Respectfully submitted,



Richard R. Diefendorf
Registration No. 32,390